

HELIX ARTS.

Re:Visits: Artist Brief

This is an open call for an artist who identifies as Disabled to undertake an artist in residence at Helix Arts.

Please see our [Helix Arts Access Statement](#).

Helix Arts was established in 1983. Re:Visits is a project that was created to celebrate and commemorate our 40th anniversary.

It includes:

- A series of events and micro commissions.
- A **Disabled artist-led residency with Helix Arts**, which will be inspired by our past, but inform our future.
- A National Lottery Heritage Fund grant supporting ambitions to improve our archive and increase its access to the public.

Diverse artists have always been an important part of our work. Creative health is a key part of our work. We want this theme to be considered as part of the residency.

Helix Arts is an organisation which places high importance on co-production and involving artists and communities together to shape the work they do together.

We encourage everyday creativity.

The artist will be hosted with us and will work with partners and participants in the community. These are partners who we have probably worked with before.

We want an artist with lived experience of Disability to work with us. Some of our work has been with Disabled artists and most of our work has been with participants facing multiple and complex health inequalities.

We are looking for:

- A North East based artist who identifies as Disabled
- Someone interested in co-producing a creative response with communities
- Someone with experience of working with diverse communities

- Someone who enjoy using aspects of research to inform practice
- Specialist artform(s) skills
- Someone who enjoys reflective practice, with the ability to monitor and review their aspirations and plans

The artist selected will:

- Undertake a participatory arts residency
- Take inspiration from our previous 40 years work
- Co-produce with communities
- Plan and deliver engagement activities in line with agreed plans with community groups and partners
- Work closely with Helix Arts to agree projects and the community partners to engage with
- Provide high quality evidence of the process and outcomes via a process of review and reflection
- Have the ability to work successfully both independently and as part of a project team

The successful applicant will need a Enhanced DBS, must hold or obtain public liability insurance for a minimum of £5 million.

Artists are responsible to ensure their equipment is insured against loss or damages from fire, theft and other usual risks for the duration of the contract.

Why are Helix Arts doing this?

We aim to listen first, which is how this brief began.

We formed insights groups of artists of all different practices, who all have lived experience of Disability and access centred work.

We did this to understand if there was a demand for this residency and also to understand how artists would want this kind of opportunity to look and feel.

This process was supported by Disabled artist Lady Kitt.

This has informed our way of working.

Conversations supported the development for this brief.

We know we won't always get everything right. We are committed to learning and to continue to listen and learn.

What can the artist expect?

We anticipate an equivalent 12 month residency.

This can change depending on the artist's and community needs.

The model of delivery would be co-produced. This will be decided upon by the artist, Helix Arts and the communities engaged.

You do not need to have any detailed awareness of our previous projects. Please see our website www.helixarts.com for the kind of work we do and have done previously.

We know you might be based elsewhere, but we have space in our offices when you need it.

We would like to agree a minimum amount of contact time with the team across the residency.

The Contract - Fees

Residency fee: £12500 (40 days work equivalent AUE rates
5+ experience (over an agreed period))

Materials and production costs: up to £5000 (subject to
artform and engagement agreed)

Access and support budget: up to £5000 outside your
existing planned support eg access to work^[3]

Fee structure: Paid monthly in line with outcomes being met.

**At this stage we are more interested in your idea than
outcomes and outputs.** We will decide outcomes and outputs
with you. They will be co-designed.

The Outcomes and Outputs we decide together will include:

- Minimum number of partners engaged
- Which partners are engaged
- Who the community groups are
- Number of participants who benefit
- Which audiences are reached
- Creative responses

The Process

There are information sessions where you can ask questions before applying. Please see the detailed timetable below.

Step 1 (From 12 February)

- Watch our short film
- Optional - Join an **information session** to ask any questions (Not essential if you want to just apply)

Step 2 (From 12 February)

- Submit a [short expression of interest](#). This expression of interest needs to include:
 - Your name
 - How we can contact you
 - Why are you interested in applying? (Maximum 250 words)
 - Access needs (or feel free to send us an access rider)
- We have a **form** you can complete. You can submit this expression of interest in **a format that suits you**
- Please **share links** to your work (there is a space on the form)

- We will **review** and **select** based on:
 - Meeting the expertise mentioned in the 'we are looking for' section above
 - Inspiring and relevant ideas
 - Aligning values - Care, Connection and Creativity
- Expression of interest **closes at 9am 18 March 2024**
- Artists will then be invited to the next step, we will also let artists know if they aren't being invited to the next step
- We will contact those invited to the next step by **18 March 2024**

Step 3 (Upon invitation by 18 March 2024)

- If you are selected to continue to the third step you will be asked to provide **a short idea** responding to a brief (in a format of your choice). This should be no more than 500 words/ 4mins Audio/ 4mins Video.
- You will be asked to provide examples for some recent work which links most to this brief
- You will be asked to supply a recent reference
- Submit by **9am on 8 April 2024**

- Artists will then be invited to the next step, we will also let artists know if they aren't being invited to the next step by **12 April 2024**

Step 4

- We will shortlist candidates based on this idea and your previous experience demonstrated
- If you are shortlisted you will be invited to an interview style discussion about your idea with some of the Helix Arts team and an artist from outside of the organisation who will help us with decision making
- We will provide you with the questions we will be asking in advance
- We will ask shortlisted candidates to provide further details about access needs, so that we can best support you. This can be provided in any format that works for you e.g. arrange a chat, provide an access rider
- We aim to interview **week commencing 6 May 2024**

We might email you and request information if we are unclear.

We will continue to take a values based approach to final selection.

We hope for the residency to commence imminently after access is in place and the start date agreed with the candidate. No later July 2024.

Please note: Artists will be paid for their idea time and interview time at a flat fee of £75.

Timeline

12 February 2024	Brief circulation
12 February 2024	Expression of Interest Submissions opens
21 February 2024, 11am - 12 noon	Information session online
5 March 2024, 2pm - 3pm	Information session in person
18 March 2024, 9am	STEP 2 Expression of Interest submission closes. Feel free to submit earlier.
18 March 2024	Artists will be informed of Expression of Interest outcomes and further

	information will be requested for the next step.
8 April 2024, 9am	Artists submit further information
12 April 2024	Artists will be informed of outcomes and invited to next step
Week Commencing 6 May 2024	Interviews
Week Commencing 13 May 2024	Artists informed of outcomes of interview/ residency awarded
SPRING/SUMMER 2024	Residency starts

Further information

Usually we place artists in community settings so having an artist in residence at Helix Arts' own building is quite different for us.

We have decided to do this because we want our archive, with 40 years of past work to explore, to be the starting point of the work of the artist who joins us.

We still expect that communities will remain at the heart of this work along with artist development.

You would be provided with an artist's induction with access and professional development supported by a creative producer and mentoring from our Director.

Support and contact would be agreed in line with any access support.

The artist would be responsible for monitoring the project in line with the Helix Arts quality framework [Momentum](#).^[7] You don't need to know anything about that at this point.

Our Organisation

Helix Arts specialises in the development of projects and initiatives exploring the role and potential of the arts in a social context. Long-term partnerships, particularly with the public and voluntary sectors enable Helix to produce projects designed to engender broad participation, collaboration and sustainability. Established in 1983, Helix Arts has charitable status and is revenue funded by Arts Council England, North East.

Helix Arts works with artists, in partnership with public and voluntary sector organisations, to create opportunities for people to participate in high quality arts activity.

Our Vision is based on our belief that participation in creative activity is fundamental to the well-being of individuals and communities and therefore should be accessible to all.

Our Mission is to increase equality of opportunity for people to participate in the arts and our focus is on those who currently have least opportunity including: children and young people at risk; unemployed adults and employed people on low incomes; people living in deprived neighbourhoods; those

with special educational needs; and people with poor health, particularly the elderly.

We work across a range of art form areas including visual arts, film-making, creative writing, graphic design, animation, street dance, music, DJing and MCing, photography, drama and textiles.

Safeguarding

You will be required to adhere to [Helix Arts Safeguarding Policy](#).

Safeguarding Lead and Business Development Manager
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